



The State University
of New York

Office of the Chancellor

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MEMORANDUM

October 28, 2025

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. John B. King Jr., Chancellor

SUBJECT: Naming of Endowments Funds and a Rehearsal Room at the State University College at Potsdam

Action Requested

The proposed resolution names the Francis C. and Marilyn A. Horner Scholarship; the Francis C. and Marilyn A. Horner Fund; and the Francis C. and Marilyn A. Horner Rehearsal Room in The Crane School of Music at the State University College at Potsdam.

Resolution

I recommend that the Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

Whereas Mrs. Marilyn A. Horner recognizes the deep impact of music education on her life as well as those in her family; and

Whereas The Crane School of Music at the State University College at Potsdam consistently demonstrates national excellence in performance and music education programs; therefore, be it

Resolved that, in recognition of the philanthropic commitment by Mrs. Marilyn A. Horner, the Francis C. and Marilyn A. Horner Scholarship, the Francis C. and Marilyn A. Horner Fund, and the Francis C. and Marilyn A. Horner Rehearsal Room in The Crane School of Music are, hereby approved at the State University College at Potsdam.

Background

Mrs. Marilyn A. Horner, of Bonney Lake, Washington, combined her early love of music with a lifelong commitment to caring for others. As a young woman, she played the trombone before pursuing a career in nursing, where she devoted her life to service and compassion. Her passion for both music and education has been reflected in her family—her daughter became an accomplished musician on the oboe and English horn, and her grandson, Dr. Christopher Hernacki, now serves as an assistant professor of trombone at The Crane School of Music. Ms. Horner’s gift reflects a deep appreciation for the enduring impact of music education and her family’s connection to The Crane School of Music.